

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 CAB-09 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 FAA-00

SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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P R 241556Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5238

INFO USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 15103

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, ETRN, WB, GE, YO, DA, NL, TV, US, UK

FR, GW

SUBJECT: BERLIN AIR -- LANDING RIGHTS

REFS: (A) STATE 182592

(B) BONN 13036

(C) BERLIN 1361

(D) BONN 12747

BEGIN SUMMARY: BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION OF DUTCH AND
TURKISH REQUESTS FOR WEST BERLIN LANDING RIGHTS REMAINS
STALLED ON QUESTION WHETHER SAS AND AUA SHOULD RETAIN
PRESENT RIGHTS OR BE ELIMINATED. HOWEVER, FRENCH
HAVE PROPOSED COMPROMISE UNDER WHICH NEW RIGHTS
WOULD BE GRANTED TO DUTCH AND TURKS, WHILE SAS AND
AUA WOULD GET A TIME EXTENSION FOR THE RIGHTS THEY
NOW HAVE. ALL REPS AGREED TO SOUND OUT AUTHORITIES
ON COMPROMISE, WHICH WE BELIEVE IS AN ACCEPTABLE
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SOLUTION. END SUMMARY

1. DURING SEPT. 19 BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION OF TURKISH AND DUTCH REQUESTS FOR LANDING RIGHTS IN WEST BERLIN, DISCUSSION QUICKLY NARROWED TO BASIC QUESTION OF WHETHER LANDING RIGHTS GRANTED TO SAS AND AUA SHOULD REMAIN. ALL REPS RESTATED AGREEMENT THAT POSITIVE RESPONSES SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DUTCH AND TURKISH REQUESTS. FRG REP (KASTRUP) EXPRESSED PREFERENCE THAT SAS AND AUA SHOULD NOT BE ELIMINATED, BUT SAID THIS WAS MATTER FOR THREE ALLIES. US REP SAID IT WAS US POSITION THAT LANDING RIGHTS SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED TO KLM AND THY AT EXPENSE OF SAS AND AUA. NO REAL PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED BY DOING SO--THE POSSIBILITY OF FOUR ADDITIONAL FLIGHTS PER WEEK TO/ FROM BERLIN TO TWO SEPARATE DESTINATIONS WOULD SURELY NOT HAVE SIGNIFICANT COMMERCIAL FALLOUT -- AND SUCH ELIMINATION COULD HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES ON ALLIES PLANS FOR POSSIBLE EXPANSION INTERNATIONAL SERVICES. US VIEW ALSO WAS THAT ADDITIONAL SERVICES OF ALL FOUR CARRIERS WOULD SERVE VIABILITY OF BERLIN. UK REP (CROMARTIE) SAID THAT IN VIEW OF VERY DIFFICULT IGS ECONOMIC SITUATION THE ALLIES SHOULD BE EXTREMELY CAUTIOUS REGARDING ANY CHANGES WHICH MIGHT RESULT IN SKIMMING OFF BY OTHER CARRIERS OF IGS TRAFFIC. CROMARTIE ALSO DID NOT BELIEVE SAS AND AUA WOULD HAVE GROUNDS FOR COMPLAINT SINCE THEY HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY TOLD THAT OTHER CARRIERS MIGHT REPLACE THEM IF THEY WERE UNABLE TO INITIATE SERVICE (PARA 5 OF ALLIED MESSAGE TO NATO, FEB. 28, 1972). CROMARTIE SAID BONN GROUP SHOULD STICK TO LINES AGREED IN BONN GROUP STUDY UNLESS THERE WERE VERY CLEAR REASONS FOR CHANGE. FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID WHETHER OR NOT SAS AND AUA WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE LANDING RIGHTS WAS OF NO COMMERCIAL IMPORTANCE, BUT THERE WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL DIFFICULTY. IF THREE ALLIES SIMPLY ADDED KLM AND THY, IT WOULD

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 15103

APPEAR THAT THE ALLIES BELIEVED THAT NOBODY WOULD BE
SUCCESSFUL IN GETTING OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS FROM GDR,
OTHERWISE ALLIES WOULD BE MORE CAUTIOUS.

2. BOISSIEU PROPOSED FOLLOWING COMPROMISE:

(A) ALLIES MAKE POSITIVE REPLY TO TURKS AND
DUTCH AND MAKE SHORT FACTUAL STATEMENT ON THIS IN
NATO;

(B) SAS AND AUA WOULD BE HANDLED AS SEPARATE ITEM.
ALLIES, REFERRING TO POSSIBILITY AS NOTED IN 1972 OF
SUBSTITUTING OTHER CARRIERS, COULD REGRET FACT THAT
GDR HAS NOT GRANTED OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS TO SAS AND AUA
BUT WOULD INFORM THEM OF AGREEMENT TO EXTEND LANDING
RIGHTS FOR ADDITIONAL PERIOD, PERHAPS ANOTHER YEAR.
UK REP SAID HE STILL SAW DANGER IN THAT FOUR CARRIERS
WOULD THUS HAVE LANDING RIGHTS AT SAME TIME, PUTTING
GDR IN POSITION OF CONTROLLING INITIATION ADDITIONAL
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SERVICES WHICH COULD ENDANGER IGS. US REP SAID EACH
OF ALLIES WOULD HAVE TO MOVE FROM PRESENT POSITION
IF AGREEMENT WERE TO BE REACHED. US AUTHORITIES FELT
STRONGLY THAT SAS AND AUA SHOULD REMAIN, WHILE UK HAD
OPPOSITE VIEW. U.S. REP PROPOSED THAT DISCUSSION BE
REPORTED TO AUTHORITIES, AND AT SAME TIME SOUND THEM
OUT ON NON-BINDING BASIS THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE FRENCH
PROPOSAL, WITH THE "EXTENSION" TO SAS AND AUA PERHAPS
BEING PUT IN TERMS OF "THROUGH THE THIRD YEAR" (THUS
INTO MARCH 1975). ALL REPS AGREED TO DO SO.

3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED. UK IS FUNDAMENTALLY CONCERNED WITH POSSIBLE COMMERCIAL CONSEQUENCES IF GDR SHOULD SUDDENLY DECIDE TO GRANT OVERFLIGHT RIGHTS (WE THINK THIS UNLIKELY). WE BELIEVE FRENCH PROPOSAL OFFERS BEST POSSIBLE MEANS OF MAINTAINING POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN OURSELVES AND SAS AND AUA (THROUGH EXTENSION DEVICE) WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ACHIEVING BONN GROUP AGREEMENT TO KLM AND THY WEST BERLIN LANDING RIGHTS. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT AGREE TO U.S. PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT BY BONN GROUP OF TEXTS OF REPLIES AND OF NOTE FOR NATO ON LINES FRENCH PROPOSAL.
HILLENBRAND

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